

DE-SOL-005386

Notice Type: Sources Sought

Synopsis:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL), is conducting a Market Survey to identify businesses capable of providing strategic analytic support services for NETL.

THIS IS A SOURCES SOUGHT SYNOPSIS for information and planning purposes and is not to be construed as a commitment by the Government. This is not a solicitation announcement for proposals, and NO CONTRACT will be awarded from this announcement. No reimbursement will be made for any costs associated with providing information in response to this announcement or any follow-up information requests. The information gathered from this sources sought notice will be utilized for the Government's determination on contract and business type utilized in the solicitation.

The magnitude of this effort is expected to be \$16 million or more per year.

The North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) code for this effort is 541712, with a size standard of 500 employees. The NAICS are provided for use by businesses in determining their appropriate business size in response to this sources sought notice. For further information on business size definitions please refer to the Small Business Administration's web site at

<http://www.sba.gov/category/navigation-structure/contracting/contracting-officials/eligibility-size-standards>.

NETL is DOE's only national laboratory dedicated to Fossil Energy (FE) Research, Development, and Demonstration (RD&D). NETL has three sites that conduct on-site research and development (R&D) – Morgantown, West Virginia; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and Albany, Oregon. Two other office sites are located in Anchorage, Alaska; and Sugarland, Texas. All five sites operate under one management structure. In addition to its on-site R&D, NETL implements and manages extramural RD&D and conducts energy analyses. NETL's project portfolio includes RD&D conducted through financial assistance, cooperative research and development agreements, and contractual arrangements. Approximately 1,200 research activities are conducted in partnership with industry, academia, other national laboratories, private research organizations, non-profit organizations, and other Federal and State agencies.

NETL's mission is to advance energy options to fuel our economy, strengthen our security, and improve our environment. NETL is primarily responsible for implementing and managing coal, natural gas, and oil RD&D programs for FE. Additionally, NETL implements and manages other DOE, governmental, and international programs and projects. Significant activities are sponsored by the DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) and Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (OE).

Effective implementation of NETL’s mission requires high quality, credible analyses of the entire economic value chain of energy from resource assessment, extraction, and transport to conversion, distribution, and end-use. Anticipated work assignments for this service contract would support activities across all NETL sites, but requiring on-site presence in Morgantown and Pittsburgh, with potential travel to other locations. This work would assist the Fossil Energy and other DOE sponsoring offices responsible for 1) implementing RD&D activities; 2) supporting DOE strategic planning efforts; and 3) conducting studies and analyses of energy-sector regulatory and policy issues of national scope. Work products are anticipated to be reports of varying length and detail, and must be of high quality and demand a high degree of credibility due to the national and international attention received.

The anticipated work requires world class expertise in the application of scientific, engineering, business, economic, energy market, and policy-related disciplines that result in highly credible study results. Required technical expertise encompasses high level scientific and engineering disciplines appropriate to address the changing U.S. energy outlook, as well as technology and system-specific expertise required for expert analysis of alternatives. Table 1 delineates the current range of NETL program areas to be supported by this work requirement, which include subprogram portfolios currently totaling more than 1,200 individual projects. Credible expertise must be capable of assessing issues across and among these diverse areas of national interest and of factoring in broader energy-related initiatives across DOE programs, the private sector, and other government programs.

<b>Table 1: Current NETL Technology Development Program Areas</b>	
<b>Program Area</b>	<b>Technology Development Subprogram</b>
<b>Strategic Energy Analysis and Planning</b>	NETL Office provides expertise across all program areas
<b>Strategic Center for Coal</b>	Coal and Power
	Sequestration
	Existing Plants
	Power Systems
	Gasification
	Fuels
	Major Demonstrations
	Major Projects Division
	Project Financing and Technology Deployment
	Program Planning and Analysis
<b>Strategic Center for Natural Gas and Oil</b>	Natural Gas and Oil
<b>Project Management Center</b>	Building & Efficiency Technologies
	Power & Vehicles Technology
	Energy Delivery Technologies

<b>Office of Research and Development</b>	Separations and Fuels Processing
	Energy System Dynamics
	Engineering Research
	Earth and Mineral Science
	Process Development
	Materials Performance
	Computational Science
	Chemistry and Surface Science
	Geosciences
	Environmental Science

The nature of the national energy-sector problems to be addressed requires an interdisciplinary approach. The complex systems of industrial and ecological processes that satisfy the needs of society are influenced by an array of social, economic, political, regulatory, technological, design, and management considerations, each of which requires application of appropriate disciplines to credibly address national energy interests. Informing program decisions, defending program decisions and projecting benefits in future decades are extremely complex tasks requiring the most experienced and capable talent available.

Work performed under the subsequent acquisition is to support both the advancement of current as well as the development of future program initiatives. The following list comprises the main areas of anticipated contractor analysis effort:

1. Process and Cost Engineering
2. Financial Analysis
3. Life Cycle Analysis
4. Economic, Market, and Regulatory Analysis
5. Technology Deployment and Program Benefit Analysis
6. Energy Infrastructure Analysis
7. Geologic Analyses

NETL anticipates that the contractor would provide core competencies led by key personnel having world class expertise in the appropriate technical, policy, business, economic, and market-related disciplines. World class expertise as used here means resources that are widely recognized as best-in-class caliber and possessing the highest degree of competency among peers in the energy sector. Such resources will possess directly relevant advanced education, work experience of at least 15 to 20 years, and notable accomplishments that may include inventions, service on national panels and advisory boards, primary contributor to nationally recognized reports and publications, and expert testimony. Key personnel, generally recognized as experts in specific areas, would be complemented by a labor mix of qualified, experienced individuals (3 years minimum) for performing typical activities delineated but not limited to those outlined within Table 2.

<b>Table 2: Typical Activities and Labor Mix</b>	
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Qualifications/labor skill mix</b>
<p><b>Technical Analysis and Reviews</b> Cost-benefit, scale-up, techno-economic, technology performance validation, environmental analysis, literature reviews, cost escalation, feasibility studies, market studies, etc.</p> <p><b>Policy Analysis</b> Regulatory, environmental, energy issues, legislative impact analysis, power market trends, and data collection, life-cycle analysis.</p> <p><b>Simulation/Modeling Support</b> Develop cost methodologies and models, apply cost estimation software, apply steady-state process simulation software, develop spreadsheet models, document models, catalog models, test and evaluate new models/software applications.</p> <p><b>Emerging Issues Analysis &amp; Evaluation</b> Evaluation of complex legislative issues, technical and economic evaluations of new initiatives.</p>	<p><b>Engineers &amp; Scientists:</b> B.S., M.S. and PhD education levels including, but not limited to mechanical, chemical, environmental, electrical, and petroleum engineering disciplines, energy specialists in fossil, nuclear, renewable energy. Expertise in costing actual utility/energy projects with access to cost data bases and cost engineers experience in contemporary costing methods is required.</p> <p><b>System Analysts/Modelers:</b> Engineers, mathematicians, or scientists proficient in the use of computer-based tools such as ASPEN Plus, PROMOD, MARKAL, NEMS, etc, as well as with sophisticated spreadsheet models. In addition to developing models and performing analysis, high-level writing capabilities will be needed for documenting the models and analysis results.</p> <p><b>Economists:</b> M.S. and PhD levels that have expertise in, energy economics, econometric methods, cost-benefit analysis, and forecasting methods.</p> <p><b>Legislative and Regulatory Analysts:</b> Legal expertise (including attorneys) that have specialized experience in interpreting complex issues in the areas of environmental law, utility regulation, energy and tax credit, cap and trade, infrastructure issues, etc.</p> <p><b>Policy Analysts:</b> Engineers, scientists and political scientists/public policy experts with advanced degrees or more than 5 years of relevant experience in assessing energy market trends, energy issues, energy legislation, etc.</p>

## **Expression of Interest/Capability Statement**

Interested concerns are requested to provide the following information in response to this market survey:

(1) A cover page (no longer than one page) which briefly describes your company. The cover page shall include, at a minimum, the name of your organization, address, DUNS number, and your business size as it relates to the above stated NAICS code and size standard information listed (specify the business classification: large business, educational, non-profit, not-for-profit, small business, small disadvantaged business, woman owned, veteran owned, disabled veteran owned, 8(a) or HUB Zone) (Note: if a teaming arrangement is proposed your business size should be considered large unless you have obtained written SBA approval for your team to be considered in another size category).

(2) A capability statement (between ten to twenty pages) describing your capability and expertise to perform the services outlined in this announcement (with specific emphasis placed on the seven functional areas delineated above), specifically indicating:

1. Demonstrated understanding of national and international current and future energy needs as evidenced by experience and capability in working with, or for, energy sector organizations, which may include private, public, domestic and international clients.
2. Organization's knowledge and expertise in areas including but not limited to the energy technology and assistance associated with Table 1. In addition, a listing of current analysis systems, tools and corporate data bases that provide evidence of highly credible, widely accepted study results.
3. A demonstrated capability of providing access to a flexible revolving workforce. Specifically, access to the necessary engineers, scientist, economists and others considered to be industry and/or academia leaders in the field of energy research and analysis. Ability to demonstrate that these highly qualified experts are available to be committed to the scope identified in this announcement which would include both long term and short term work assignments. Ability to have access to specialized engineers, scientists, economist, and other specialists and to facilities to meet the needs of off-site research and analysis efforts (including the necessary relationships with a variety of higher educational entities to perform academic research efforts at facilities throughout the continental U.S.). Evidence of corporate commitment to provide access to world class resources to meet a flexible revolving workforce. Demonstrated ability to manage and provide resources to effectively meet diverse customer needs for an effort of similar scope and size of this notice including the ability to provide quick response technical expertise for both long and short term assignments (technical, business, economic, and energy market).

4. Demonstrated capability in management of the variety of subcontracting or teaming efforts anticipated under this contract (including the management of efforts conducted by higher educational entities, for-profit and not-for-profit organizations). This capability can be demonstrated through past experience in management of large scale subcontracting and teaming partnerships with a variety of organizations (note: it is expected that this requirement will include access to higher educational entities therefore in order to demonstrate the capability of this element, the respondent must demonstrate management of subcontracting or teaming with multiple higher educational entities. If subcontracting or teaming is anticipated, past history and specific reference to effective development and implementation is required.
5. Demonstrated ability to assume the financial responsibilities associated with receiving a contract of this projected dollar amount. Specifically, the assurance that resources are available to meet payrolls, subcontracting, and material obligations at this magnitude.

It is recommended that submittals be limited to between ten and twenty pages. For consistency, the respondent is instructed to submit their response in either MS Word (.doc) or Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) format (version 2003 or earlier).

All interested parties responding to this market survey must submit their responses via the FedConnect no later than 3:00 PM Local Time (Morgantown, WV) on June 05, 2013. The FedConnect web portal (found at <https://www.fedconnect.net>) is used to disseminate this sources sought notification, receive questions, and accept the expressions of interests and demonstrated capability information in response to this notification. **ONLY RESPONSES RECEIVED THROUGH FEDCONNECT WILL BE ANALYZED IN RESPONSE TO THIS NOTICE.**

You are strongly encouraged to submit your Expression of Interest/Capability Statement at least 24 hours before the specified due date in order to have time to resolve any transmission problems. It is your responsibility to allow an adequate amount of time for receipt of your submission.

To get started, download a copy of the quick start guide, “[FedConnect, Ready, Set, Go Guide](#)” which will provide assistance/instructions on registering, finding an opportunity, sending and receiving messages, and submitting a response.

To register, please visit the FedConnect web portal at <https://www.fedconnect.net>, and click on the link: “Click here to register.” Please note that before you can register in FedConnect, you will need a DUNS (<http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>) and a federal System for Award Management (SAM) account ([www.sam.gov](http://www.sam.gov)). You are encouraged to register as soon as possible and should allow at least 14 days to complete these registrations.

To find this Sources Sought Notification, click on “Search Public Opportunities” and search by the RFP Number, **DE-SOL-0005386** used to identify this sources sought notice. Please

bookmark this page and check it frequently for updates. It is highly recommended that once you access the opportunity that you request to be alerted for amendments, messages, and any e-mail alerts associated with this requirement. To do so, you will need to click on the "Register to Receive Notifications" button under "What do I do now?" If someone from your company has already registered interest for this opportunity, the "Register to Receive Notifications" button will not display. Instead, you will have the option to join the response team by clicking the Join the Team button within the Response Team section.

All questions regarding the content of this notification must be submitted electronically via FedConnect. You must register with FedConnect to respond as an interested party to submit questions, and to view responses to questions. Questions and answers will also be posted to the electronic reading room available at the following Web address <http://www.netl.doe.gov/business/solicitations/ssc2008/index.html>. Questions will not be answered over the phone. The Contracting Officer must receive questions regarding the Sources Sought Notification via FedConnect no later than ten (10) business days prior to the established due date. The Government will review the questions and reserves the right to not respond to any questions received after this timeframe or not relevant to providing responses to this notification.

Please note - FedConnect is owned and operated by Compusearch Software Systems Inc., not by the Department of Energy and DOE does not provide help desk assistance for FedConnect. For assistance with FedConnect, please contact FedConnect directly:

By e-mail: [support@FedConnect.net](mailto:support@FedConnect.net)

By phone: 1-800-899-6665 (8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Eastern Daylight Time, except Federal holidays).

As indicated previously, this is **NOT** a solicitation therefore no cost or pricing information should be provided. This is a market survey to identify potential sources capable of performing the effort required. Responses should be limited to the offeror's expression of interest, identification of business size, and demonstration of capabilities/experience based on the items indicated in this notification.

Contracting Office Address:

626 Cochran's Mill Road; (MS-921-159) P.O. Box 10940 Pittsburgh, PA 15236-10940

Point of Contact(s):

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